

REMARKS

The election/restriction requirement dated January 25, 2006 holds that this application contains claims directed to two patentably distinct inventions. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct groups for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I – Claims 1-19, drawn to a drive apparatus; and

Group II – Claim 20 drawn to a method of driving a pair of wheels.

In response, Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-19) directed to a drive apparatus without traverse.

Moreover, the January 25, 2006 election/restriction requirement further holds this application contains claims directed to two patentably distinct species of the claimed drive control system. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct species for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Species 1. – the drive system disclosed in relation to Figures 1 and 2; and

Species 2. – the drive system disclosed in relation to Figures 10 and 11.

Additionally, the Office Action indicates that at least claims 1, 2 and 15-17 are generic.

In response, Applicants hereby elect Species 1 illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 without traverse. Applicants believe that claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 12-19 read on Figures 1 and 2.

Finally, the January 25, 2006 election/restriction requirement holds this application contains claims directed to four patentably distinct species of the claimed inverter system. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct species for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Species a. – the circuit disclosed in relation to Figure 5;

Species b. – the circuit disclosed in relation to Figure 8;

Species c. – the circuit disclosed in relation to Figure 9; and

Species d. – the circuit disclosed in relation to Figure 12.

Additionally, the Office Action indicates that at least claims 1, 2 and 15-17 are generic.

In response, Applicants hereby elect Species a illustrated in Figure 5 without traverse.

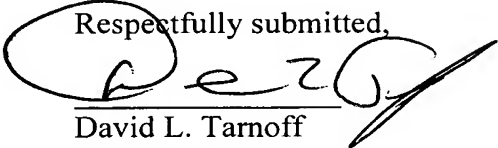
Applicants believe that claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10, 12-19 read on Figure 5.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10, 12-19 since they read on the elected species (Species 1 and Species a) shown in Figures 1-7. Claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 20 are believed to be directed to a non-elected embodiment. Thus, these claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 20 can be withdrawn from consideration in this case. However, Applicants respectfully request that these non-elected claims be considered upon the allowance of a generic claim in accordance with U.S. patent practice.

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Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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